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## **THE WORK OF A POLICE DOG HANDLER**

Police dog handlers are members of specialized units in law enforcement that work with canine counterparts to accomplish tasks such as apprehending criminals and detecting explosives, contraband, and drugs.

Searching and tracking are the main tasks of police dogs. A single police officer is no substitute for a police dog, as dogs are able to search more rapidly and efficiently and often in very constricted places. A dog's nose is one of the most precise and effective items of equipment available to the police. A trained sniffer dog's nose can detect 10-year-old smells and is approximately 2,000 times more accurate than a human's nose [2].

Police forces use a wide range of breeds of dogs for a variety of policing duties. The specific breed of dog often impacts the type of work which they will be trained to respond to. Listed below are some of the most common breeds which are currently being trained as police dogs in Britain:

- German Shepherd;
- Rottweiler;
- Giant Schnauzer;
- Labrador;
- Belgian Shepherd;
- Springer Spaniels;
- Weimaraners;
- German Short-Haired Pointers [1].

To be a successful dog handler you will need patience and confidence as well as being comfortable working independently with your dog. Being a dog handler is a physically challenging job where you will need to be able to keep up with your dog during tough training sessions where a lot of walking and running is common practice. . This occupation also has a higher-than-average rate of on-the-job injury. They can also expect to be offered or assigned overtime.

To become a police dog handler, you will usually need at least three years' experience of police work before being able to transfer to the dog section. The job could also mean you encounter difficult terrains and weather conditions working outside in the elements. There is an element of running and lifting your dog over fences, often whilst wearing boots and body armour, so you must maintain a suitable level of fitness. The hours can be long and variable, and include weekends, evenings and nights. In all services shifts are worked on a rota that covers 24 hours, seven days a week [3].

Applicants for a police dog handler position may have to complete oral and performance tests as part of the application process. Police dog handlers participate in a formal training period with the dog to which they are assigned. This training may include search, detection, and tracking

activities. After the formal training is over, handlers usually continue ongoing training with their dogs on a regular basis to maintain skills and learn new procedures.

The dogs live at home with their handlers, so you need to have a stable home life and if you have a family they would need to agree to have a working dog lives in the home. You are responsible for looking after, feeding and keeping the dogs under control. Police dog handlers are issued specialized training and practice tools like a bite suit.

The main functions of the police dogs are:

- searching for evidence
- guarding prisoners
- controlling a crowd, perhaps at a football match;
- searching for explosives or illegal drugs
- searching for a missing person
- tracking a criminal who may be carrying a knife, gun or other

weapon

For example, specialised police dog is the drug detection dog. These dogs are specifically trained to search a place, building, or individual for the scent of certain types of drugs. By focusing on one particular scent, it enables the police dog to be more effectively trained, and therefore perform to a higher standard when on duty.

In many countries, these types of dogs are used in airports to sniff the baggage/people passing through airport security, in order to detect illegal substances. They are often trained to follow a simple command to indicate that they have found something. For example, they often sit down if they detect any illegal substances.

Or specialist dog is the explosive detection dog. These dogs are trained to detect the scent of explosives. Today these dogs work very closely with the bomb disposal team. They are an essential part of the police force [4].

So, police dogs – is a highly trained animal – are crucial to a police officer's work. A competent police dog exhibits the ability to expertly follow a human scent; this skill enables the police to quickly locate anyone who may be lost or hiding. Large crowds, especially those who may exhibit volatile or potentially criminal behaviour are an ideal place for police dogs to be visible, because they deter possible incidents from occurring.

Police dog handler is one of the most exciting and challenging careers that an individual can undertake within the police force. They must be prepared to exercise and care for the dog whilst off duty.

#### **Список використаних джерел**

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## **MOUNTED POLICE IN GREAT BRITAIN**

Mounted police are police who patrol on horseback. Their day-to-day function is typically picturesque or ceremonial, but they are also employed in crowd control because of their mobile mass and height advantage for crime prevention and high visibility policing roles. The added height and visibility that the horses give their riders allow officers to observe a wider area, but it also allows people to see and fine the officers when needed, which helps deter crime. Some mounted police units are trained in search and rescue due to the horse's ability to travel where vehicles cannot. If a horse could have a mission statement it would be 'Act first, think later.' For thousands of years, the horse's greatest protection has been his ability to move out of the way of danger – and quickly.

Mounted police are most often seen at football matches, although they are also a common sight on the streets of many towns and cities as a visible police presence and crime deterrent during the day and night.

The use of horses by the police force goes back to the eighteenth century – to the very roots of police work in London. Their history began in 1760 when Sir John Fielding, the Bow Street magistrate, developed a plan for mounted patrols to deal with the plague of highwaymen infesting the metropolitan area's turnpikes. The plan was so successful that the original Horse Patrol of eight men was strengthened to more than 50 in 1805. The Bow Street Horse Patrol could then provide protection on all main roads within 20 miles of Charing Cross. Their scarlet waistcoats, blue greatcoats and trousers and black leather hats and stocks, were the first uniform issued to any police force in the world [3].

With the coming of the railways, the need for Mounted Bow Street officers to protect travellers against the depredations of the highwayman on the roads ceased. Around this time rural unrest and poverty were leading to more and more livestock thefts in the countryside and the men and their horses were given this task. These patrols were looked on as so dangerous that the Officers carried a revolver and sword.

The modern day organisation of today's Mounted Branch began in 1919 when Lt Col Laurie, the ex-Commanding officer of the Royal Scots Grey Regiment, took up the appointment of Assistant Commissioner in the